

# Short Course on Experimental Dynamic Substructuring

## Module #1: Introduction



### Matthew S. Allen

Associate Professor, University of Wisconsin-Madison

### Daniel Rixen

Chair, Institute of Applied Mechanics, Technische Universität München

### Randall L. Mayes

Distinguished Member of Technical Staff, Sandia National Labs.

### Short Course Notes For:

February 1, 2014, IMAC, Orlando, Florida

## About the Instructors

### ■ Instructor

Prof. Matt Allen, Associate Professor  
Department of Engineering Physics  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
1500 Engineering Drive, 535 ERB  
Madison, WI 53706

[msallen@engr.wisc.edu](mailto:msallen@engr.wisc.edu)

608.890.1619

<http://silver.neep.wisc.edu/~msallen/>



### ■ Instructor:

Randall L. Mayes, Distinguished Member of Technical Staff  
Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, NM.

[rlmayes@sandia.gov](mailto:rlmayes@sandia.gov)

505.844.5324



### ■ Instructor:

Daniel Rixen, Chair,  
Institute of Applied Mechanics  
Technische Universität München

[rixen@tum.de](mailto:rixen@tum.de)

+49 (89) 289-10365



## Informal Survey

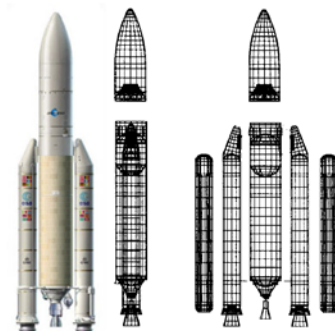
### Have you:

- Had an undergraduate-level class on vibrations?
- Had a graduate-level class on vibrations?
- Had a graduate-level class on finite element analysis?  
Experience with FEA?
- Ever performed a modal test? Regularly?
  
- Approach for this short course
  - 80% Lecture , 20% Guided exploration
  - Files needed for the examples can be obtained at:
    - <http://substructure.engr.wisc.edu/> in the "Tutorials" section.
- Assessment :
  - You will be asked to complete a short questionnaire within a few days of the short course to help the instructors to evaluate its effectiveness.

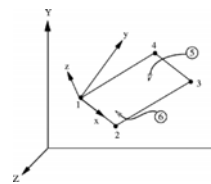


## What is Substructuring?

- Substructuring is a process whereby individual components of a structure are analyzed or tested separately and then combined to predict the response of the built-up structure.
  - Reduced Order Modeling: create an approximation to a model to reduce the computational burden
- Analytical substructuring forms the basis of the Finite Element Method, and related techniques, such as the Craig-Bampton method, have been key components of structural analysis for over 40 years.
- **Experimental/Analytical Substructuring** is a far less common variant where a model for one or more subcomponents is derived experimentally.



Ariane 5 Launch Vehicle (ESA)  
and diagram depicting  
potential substructures

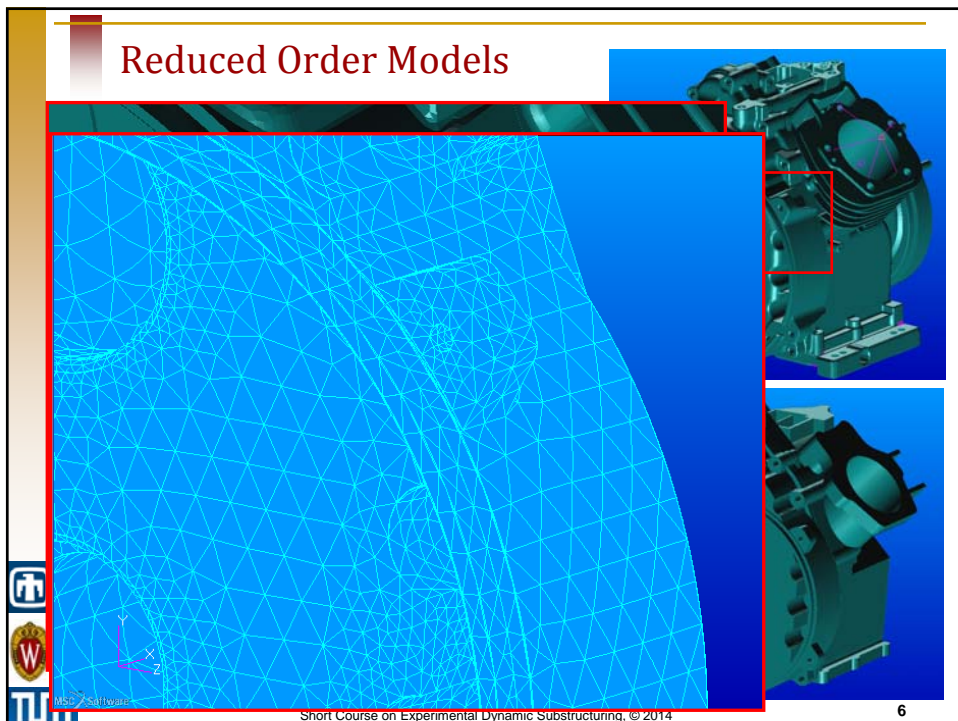


Some systems cannot be assembled until it is too late!



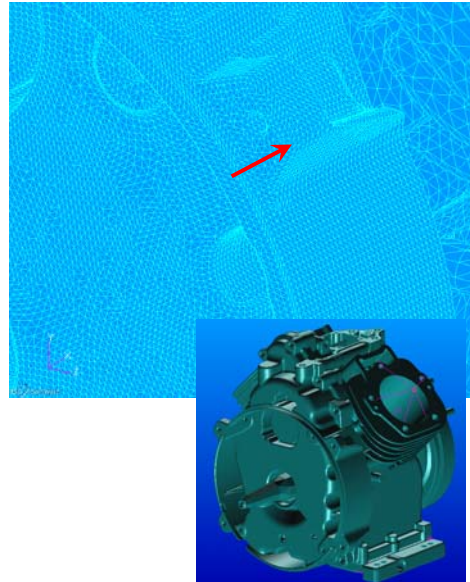
- Other Examples:
  - ❑ New Automobiles
  - ❑ Aircraft
  - ❑ ...

## Reduced Order Models

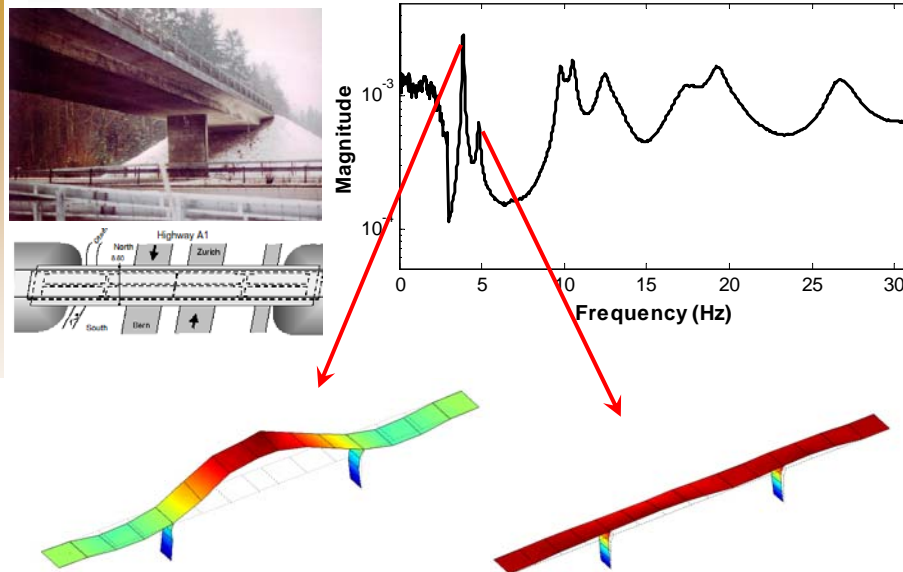


## Basics of Substructuring / Reduced Order Modeling

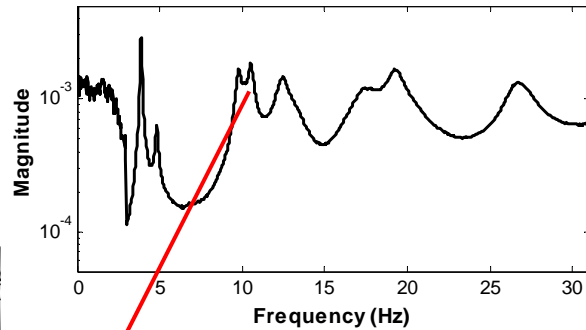
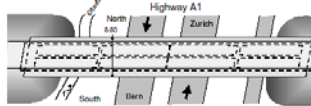
- A complete FEA model allows for arbitrary motion of any node of the structure.
- A substructure or reduced order model can be more efficient by capturing only those motions that are likely in the application of interest.
- This is especially relevant to structural dynamics, where the deformations observed are often the net effect of only a few vibration modes.



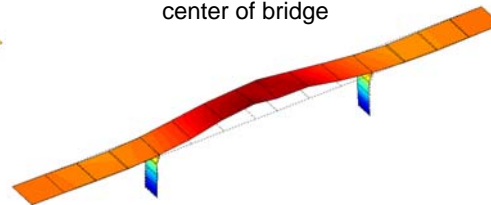
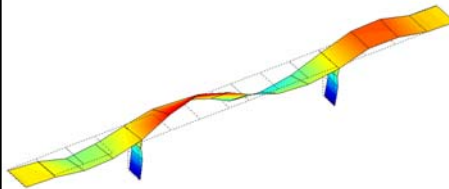
## Example – Swiss Highway Bridge



## Example – Swiss Highway Bridge



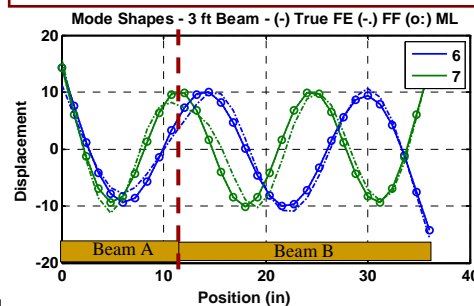
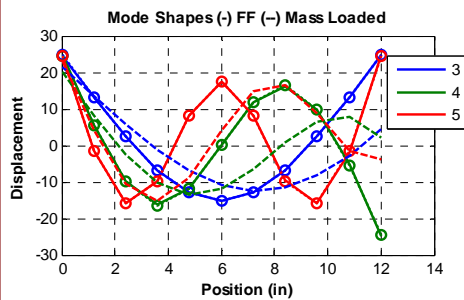
Response to impulse applied to center of bridge



## Modes as Basis Vectors: A Simple Example

Mode #	Nat. Freq (Hz)		Error (%)
	FEA	FF	
3	121.0	128.0	5.8%
4	333.3	364.0	9.2%
5	653.3	658.8	0.8%
6	1079.7	1130.8	4.7%
7	1612.4	1781.8	10.5%
8	2251.3	2282.0	1.4%
9	2996.3	3176.3	6.0%
10	3847.2	4396.0	14.3%
11	4803.7	4934.3	2.7%

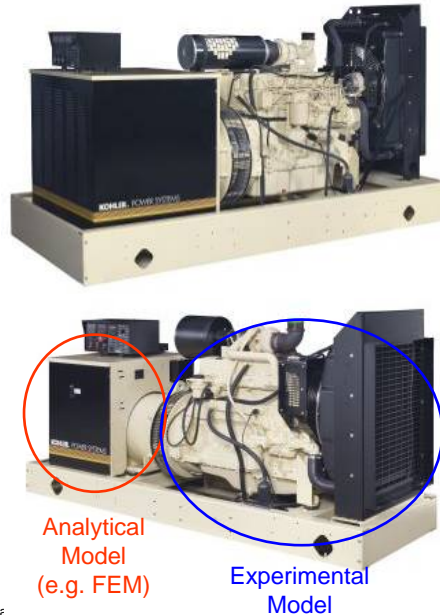
- A reduction basis must be carefully selected to produce accurate results!





## Experimental – Analytical Substructuring

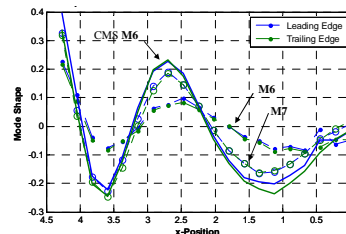
- Often we are tasked with analyzing systems where one or more components are very difficult to model analytically.
  - Intricate geometry
  - Drawings proprietary or unavailable
  - Unknown material properties
  - Bolted joints with complicated stick-slip behavior
  - ...
- These components can potentially be replaced with an experimentally derived model.



Short Course on Experimental Dyna

## Experimental Substructuring CHALLENGES

- Approach is limited to motions that can be measured accurately.
  - Free-free boundary conditions:
    - Easy to reproduce experimentally
    - Poor accuracy (slow convergence)
    - Augment with attachment modes (residual flexibility)
  - Fixed interface modes
    - More efficient for rigidly connected substructures
    - Difficult or impossible to realize experimentally
    - Must be supplemented with constraint modes which are even more challenging to measure!
- Measurements are subject to noise / errors.
  - How do we design tests to reduce errors?
  - Can an adequate model be created in the presence of inevitable measurement errors?
- Substructure models require the rotation at the connection point, which is challenging to measure reliably!

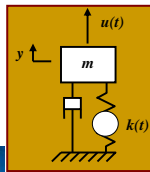


Short Course on Experimental Dynamic Substructuring, © 2014

## Outline / Schedule



NEG Micon, 2.0MW,  
72m diameter, 1999



- 8:30 - **Mod01**: Introduction/Motivation - **Matt**
- 9:00 - **Mod02**: General Theory - **Daniel**
- 10:00 - **Mod03**: Industrial Examples - **Daniel**
  - 10:15 (15 min) Break
- 10:30 - **Mod04**: Matlab/Octave Exercises - **Matt**
- 11:00 - **Mod05**: Measurement Considerations - **Randy**
- 12:00 - **Mod06**: Hands on Exercise - **Matt**
  - 12:30-1:30 PM - Lunch Break
- 1:30 - **Mod07**: Decoupling Techniques - **Daniel**
- 2:30 - **Mod08**: Transmission Simulator - **Matt & Randy**
  - 3:15 (15 min) Break
- 3:30 - **Mod09a**: Estimating Fixed-Interface Modes - **Matt**
- 4:00 - **Mod09a**: Fixed Base - Another Application - **Randy**
- 4:30 - **Mod10**: Additional / Advanced Concepts
  - (20 min) Source description, Blocked forces, etc... **Daniel**
  - (20 min) Nonlinear Substructuring and NNMs - **Matt**
  - (20 min) Q & A and/or continue hand-on measurements/analysis

## Mathematics Notation used in this Short Course

- This course uses the following mathematical notation (as much as possible) although some deviations will be necessary:
  - Scalar variables italic:  $x, y, z, \dots$
  - Vectors and Matrices upright:  $x, y, A, B, \dots$
  - Exponentially Modulated Periodic (EMP) vectors and matrices (used to derive harmonic transfer function, etc...) capital bold upright:  $\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{A}, \dots$
  - When possible lower case for time-varying vectors and upper case for vectors that are functions of frequency:  $x(t), X(\omega)$
- **Our goal is for you to learn and gain new skills. Please feel free to ask questions at any time!**

